## **For Immediate Release**

October 29, 2001

Jackson, MS – Governor Ronnie Musgrove participated in a conference call with Governor Tom Ridge, Director of Homeland Security, regarding potential threats for additional attacks on the United States. United States Attorney General John Ashcroft, in a late afternoon press conference, stated there was "credible evidence" that an attack could occur in the United States within the next week. Law enforcement agencies across the country have been placed on highest alert.

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Musgrove released the following statement this afternoon:

"The threat of additional actions against the United States and its citizens has been discussed since September 11. Here in Mississippi, we have taken preliminary steps to prepare for any event. We have instituted protocols for public safety, emergency and law enforcement agencies to follow in any situation. State agencies including the Department of Health, Department of Public Safety, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Mississippi Highway Patrol have already met with the FBI and the United States Postal Service. Our team has been and will be meeting on a regular basis."

"I also want to encourage families across Mississippi to exercise extra caution on Wednesday evening, October 31. Parents should stay close to their children, visit only homes of people they know, and take extra precautions regarding candy."